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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Baese et al.  
Serial No.: 10/624,374  
Filed: July 22, 2003  
For: Water Heater With Continuously Variable Air And Fuel  
Input  
Group Art Unit: 3749  
Examiner: Lu, Jiping  
Attorney's Docket No. N9554

**RULE 116 AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and comments are submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated March 23, 2005 in order to put the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for review upon appeal.